


BOROUGH OF KETTERING.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1948.

KETTERING :

H. RICHARDSON, WATER STREET.

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BOROUGH OF KETTERING.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

December, 1948.

Members :

Councillor W. J. Litchfield (*Chairman*)
The Mayor, Alderman E. A. C. Woodcock, J.P.
Alderman Mrs. F. E. Clarke, J.P.
„ C. Mayes, J.P., C.C.
„ G. B. Smith, C.C.
Councillor Mrs. G. A. Cook, J.P.
„ H. Hodge, C.C.
„ A. J. McForan
„ J. R. Sadler, J.P.
„ Mrs. L. E. Stebbings, C.C.
„ L. P. Strong
„ R. W. Tailby
„ W. Walden

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

June, 1948.

Alderman Mrs. F. E. Clarke, J.P. (*Chairman*)
The Mayor, Alderman E. A. C. Woodcock, J.P.
Alderman W. Dyson, C.C.
Councillor Mrs. G. A. Cook, J.P.
„ H. Hodge, C.C.
„ C. Parker
„ J. R. Sadler, J.P.
„ R. Thorpe
Mrs. M. B. Barwell
Miss F. M. Pollard, M.A., J.P.
Mrs. E. E. Porter

} Co-opted Members

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

Florence Bentham, M.B., B.S. (Durh.), D.P.H. (Lond.) (From 1st October, 1948) (1). (Deputy Medical Officer of Health 1st January to 30th September, 1948).

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

H. E. Deuce, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (1) (2) (4)

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

A. E. Innes, B.Sc. (Econ.), D.P.A., M.S.I.A. (1) (3) (4)

L. Hague, B.E.M., M.S.I.A. (1) (3) (4)

J. R. Davenport, A.R.S.I. (1) (3) (4) (to 13th March, 1948)

C. Riley, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (1) (3) (4) (from 30th August, 1948)

Chief Clerk :

J. F. Burrridge.

Clerks :

K. C. Vidler.

Mrs. M. E. Linnell.

Miss M. J. Plowright (to 16th November, 1948)

Miss G. A. Flecknor (to 30th November, 1948)

R. J. Cooke (from 16th December, 1948)

Rodent Operative :

B. Clarke.

Disinfecting Assistants :

H. Woodward.

V. A. Woodward (returned from military service 15th March, 1948)

J. McCormack (to 20th April, 1948)

C. Haywood (from 29th September, 1948)

On military service :

P. Woodward (from 28th September, 1948)

Transferred to Northamptonshire County Council on 5th July, 1948.

*Ophthalmic Surgeon :

E. Harries-Jones, M.D., C.M. (Edin.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.)

*Surgeon for diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat :

N. E. Kendall, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Edin.)

*Orthopaedic Surgeon :

F. Wilson Stuart, M.D., Ch.M. (Aberd.)

*Consultant Obstetrician :

R. Watson, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O. (Belfast), F.R.C.S. (Edin.), F.R.C.O.G.

*Dental Surgeon :

J. P. Finnan, L.D.S. (Glas.)

Health Visitors (also School Nurses) :

Miss E. E. Bell (1) (5) (6) (7)

Miss L. McCaffrey (1) (5) (6) (7)

Miss R. M. Crawford (1) (5) (6) (7)

Miss B. G. Partridge (1) (5) (6) (7)

Miss H. M. White (1) (5) (6) (7)

Mrs. M. P. Loasby (1) (5) (6) (temporary)

Miss G. I. Raistrick (1) (5) (6) (temporary to 7th Feb., 1948)

Miss P. A. Wallis (1) (5) (6) (7) (temporary from 1st April, 1948)

* Part time.

(1) Exchequer Grants.

(2) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector.

(3) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examining Board as Sanitary Inspector.

(4) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

(5) General Hospital Trained Nurse.

(6) Certified Midwife.

(7) Health Visitors' Certificate.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MANOR HOUSE,
KETTERING.

May, 1949.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,
ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF KETTERING.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1948.

The contents of this report have been compiled in accordance with the suggestion of the Ministry of Health Circular No. 3/49 dated the 17th January, 1949. The vital statistics which are included are based on information supplied by the Registrar-General ; this was received on the 13th May, 1949.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the Borough is 36,840.

The birth-rate per 1,000 total population, which decreased slightly from 19.89 in 1947 to 17.89, is the same as that for England and Wales. The still-birth rate of 0.27 per 1,000 total population is lower than it was last year and compares favourably with that for England and Wales, which is 0.42. The still-birth rate per 1,000 total births is 14.95, compared with 26.81 in 1947 and 8.66 in 1946.

The death rate from all causes per 1,000 total population is 12.24 compared with 12.55 for 1947 and 10.8 for England and Wales. Of the 451 deaths, diseases of the heart and circulatory system, cancer and tuberculosis accounted for 161, 97 and 20 respectively, together making 61.6 per cent. of the total.

The maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births is nil for the sixth successive year. The infantile mortality rate, that is, the number of deaths of children under one year per 1,000 live births, is 28.83 compared with 24.79 for 1947 and 34 for England and Wales.

The statistics for the Borough, when compared with the figures for other areas, which are shown on page 9, can be regarded with some degree of satisfaction ; nevertheless it is hoped that they will give rise, not to any feeling of complacency, but rather to the desire and determination to do better in the future.

The year 1948 marked the centenary of public health. Since 1848 the population of this country has more than doubled, the death rate has been halved, the infant mortality rate has been reduced by more than two-thirds and the expectation of life has risen by over 20 years.

The coming into operation on the 5th July, 1948, of the National Health Service Act, 1946, has taken over many of the local authority's functions and staff.

Time alone will prove whether the transference of the personal health services to larger bodies to whom they are only subsidiary duties has been justified or whether the services were better based on the small units which have arisen in accordance with local needs.

It may be that a ' limiting ' of the local authority's powers will yield greater efficiency, as more time can now be devoted to public health problems and to field work in preventive medicine.

I desire to thank Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. Haugh, O.B.E., Borough Engineer and Surveyor, for information regarding housing, water supply, drainage and sewerage and public cleansing, which is incorporated in the report.

I wish to express my appreciation of the willing co-operation and support of the Borough Councillors, especially the members of the Public Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees, Mr. Deuce and the staff of the Public Health Department for their valuable assistance in carrying out the work of this Department.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FLORENCE BENTHAM,
Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	4,546
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population ...	36,840
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to Rate Books	10,416
Rateable Value	£235,492
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£920

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

LIVE BIRTHS					TOTAL	MALES	FEMALES
Legitimate					620	335	285
Illegitimate					39	16	23
Totals ...					659	351	308

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 17.89

STILL BIRTHS.					TOTAL	MALES	FEMALES
Legitimate					8	4	4
Illegitimate					2	2	—
Totals ...					10	6	4

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 14.95

DEATHS.					TOTAL	MALES	FEMALES
					451	250	201

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.24

Deaths from Puerperal causes :

Puerperal Sepsis	nil
Other Puerperal Causes	nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	nil

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births	28.83
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	24.19
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	102.56

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	87
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ...	1

Birth rates, Civilian Death rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1948.

			England & Wales	126 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adminis- trative County	Kettering
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.							
Births :							
Live births	...	...	17.9(a)	20.0	19.2	20.1	17.9
Still births	...	...	0.42(a)	0.52	0.43	0.39	0.27
Deaths :							
All causes	...	...	10.8(a)	11.6	10.7	11.6	12.24
Typhoid & Paratyphoid			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	...		0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	—
Diphtheria	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63	0.54
Influenza	...	...	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02	—
Smallpox	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	...		0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.08
Pneumonia	...	...	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54	0.57
Notifications (Corrected) :							
Typhoid Fever	...		0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.03
Paratyphoid Fever	...		0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.11
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...		0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37	2.17
Whooping Cough	...		3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13	5.53
Diphtheria	...	...	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10	—
Erysipelas	...	...	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22	1.08
Smallpox	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17	16.1
Pneumonia	...	...	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57	1.08
Acute Poliomyelitis	...		0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.57
Acute Polioencephalitis			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Deaths : Rates per 1,000 Live Births.							
All causes under 1 year of age	...	...	34(b)	39	32	31	28.83
Enteritis & Diarrhoea under 2 years of age			3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4	1.52
Notifications (Corrected) : Rates per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births							
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	...	...	6.89	8.90	4.71	7.34(c)	5.98
			Abortion with sepsis	Abortion without sepsis	Puerperal infections	Others	Total
The Maternal Mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows :							
(per 1,000 Total Births)	...		0.11	0.05	0.13	0.73	1.02
The Maternal Mortality rates for Kettering are as follows :							
per 1,000 live births	...		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
per 1,000 total births	...		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(a) Rates per 1,000 total population.							
(b) Per 1,000 related births.							
(c) In London Puerperal Fever alone was 0.61.							

Population.—The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population for the mid year 1948 is 36,840 and the vital statistics in the Report are based on that figure.

Births.—(a) Live Births.—The Registrar-General returns the number of births registered during 1948 as 659, of which 351 were males and 308 were females. This gives a live birth rate of 17.89 per 1,000 total population, compared with 19.89 in 1947 and 17.9 for England and Wales. Thirty-nine births were illegitimate, 16 males and 23 females.

(b) Still Births.—The number of stillborn children registered in 1948 was 10, of which 6 were males and 4 females. This gives a still-birth rate of 14.95 per 1,000 total births and 0.27 per 1,000 total population.

Deaths.—The Registrar-General gives the number of deaths registered as 451, of which 250 were males and 201 were females. Forty-nine residents died outside the area and 98 non-residents died within the area.

REGISTERED CAUSES OF DEATH.

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
All causes	250	201	451
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—
3. Scarlet fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping-cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	13	5	18
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	1	1	2
8. Syphilitic diseases	—	1	1
9. Influenza	—	—	—
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and polio- encephalitis	1	2	3
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (m) uterus (f)	2	2	4
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	15	4	19
15. Cancer of breast	—	6	6
16. Cancer of all other sites	35	23	58
17. Diabetes	1	3	4
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	24	32	56
19. Heart disease	75	66	141
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	10	10	20
21. Bronchitis	7	4	11
22. Pneumonia	12	9	21
23. Other respiratory diseases	5	4	9
24. Ulcer of duodenum or stomach	2	1	3

REGISTERED CAUSES OF DEATH—*continued.*

				MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	—	1	1
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	1	1	2
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis	...	...	3	5	8
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature birth	...	...	1	2	3
32.	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile disease	...	...	6	4	10
33.	Suicide	...	...	2	—	2
34.	Road traffic accidents	...	...	4	—	4
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	4	2	6
36.	All other causes	...	...	26	13	39
	Deaths of infants under 1 year :					
	Total	...	...	10	9	19
	Legitimate	...	...	7	8	15
	Illegitimate	...	...	3	1	4

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE
IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.—The following specimens were sent to the Clinical Research Association, London :

Water—Swimming Bath (Bacteriological exam.)	2
Water—Stream (Chemical exam.)	14
Water—Stream (Bacteriological exam.)	2
Milk	6
Frozen Meat	1

The following specimens were sent to the Public Health Laboratories, Northampton and Leicester :

Swabs from throat and nose	471
Swabs from ear	6
Blood	21
Faeces	292
Urine	17
Swabs from gums, sores, etc.	5
Dried egg	4
Ice-cream	25
Milk	30

The following specimens were sent to the Department of Pathology at Northampton General Hospital :

Portions from emergency slaughtered heifer	7
Cow's tongue	1

The Public Health Laboratory Service, originally instituted on an emergency basis, is now being continued permanently under the

statutory power conferred by Section 17 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Medical Research Council undertaking to remain responsible during an initial period of at least 5 years for the direction of the Service on behalf of the Ministry of Health. From the 1st April, 1947, the Service undertook work for local authorities free of charge in so far as it was relevant to the diagnosis, control and prevention of infectious disease other than venereal disease.

One hundred and thirty-eight samples of raw milk were sent to the County Public Health Laboratory, Northampton, for examination by the methylene blue reduction test, and 56 samples of pasteurised milk for the phosphatase test. The results of these tests are shown on page 30.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—A list of these was given in the Report for 1947 and remained unaltered until the 4th July, 1948, after which date all treatment centres, with the exception of the Cleansing Station, became the responsibility of the Northamptonshire County Council.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic.—Fifteen clinic sessions were held at the Public Health Department. The figures below show the number of children treated.

Total number of children who completed the full course of diphtheria immunisation during the period 1st January to 4th July, 1948.

Under 5 years	Over 5 years and under 15 years
183	13

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

On the 1st January, 1948, there were in the town 41 evacuated persons, of whom 17 were unaccompanied children. The scheme ceased on the 4th July, 1948.

During the period 1st January to 4th July, 1948, no beds, mattresses or blankets were loaned to householders for the use of billeted persons. No medical cards were issued for children unaccompanied by their parents and no nursing allowances were paid to foster parents in respect of sick children.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.—The quality of the water supply of the area has been quite satisfactory throughout the year.

Restrictions on the use of water were in force between the hours of 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. during the period 1st January, 1948 to 24th June, 1948. Full supply was restored on the 24th June and was maintained for the rest of the year.

The reservoirs commenced to rise at the end of the first week in the year and continued to rise until the end of the 24th week, when the total quantity of water in storage was 258.947 million gallons. They then commenced to fall and so continued until the end of the

42nd week, when they commenced to rise and continued to do so until the end of the year, when the total quantity of water in storage was 216.155 million gallons. Rainfall figures for the year are given below :

		First Quarter 1948	Second Quarter 1948	Third Quarter 1948	Fourth Quarter 1948	Total
Cransley	...	6.44 ins.	7.72 ins.	6.92 ins.	7.35 ins.	28.43 ins.
Thorpe Malsor	...	6.38 ins.	6.53 ins.	7.46 ins.	7.64 ins.	28.01 ins.

The average rainfall at Cransley for the last 85 years is 24.78 inches.

The supply of water from Corby was taken at an average rate of 410,000 gallons per day throughout the year. Some 2,600 yards of new water mains have been laid to serve the new Stamford Road Second Stage Housing Estate.

A scheme for supplying Kettering Railway Station by an 8-inch gravity main direct from Warren Hill Reservoir is well advanced and should be put in hand during 1949.

Bacteriological examinations were made of both raw and treated water supplied from Cransley, Clover Hill Well and Corby, a total of 60 analyses being made during the course of the year.

Chemical analyses were similarly carried out. The results were very satisfactory and the following table serves to indicate typical results of examinations.

In September, however, an analysis of the Corby supply revealed a decline in the standard of bacterial purity, although the supply was considered wholesome for drinking and domestic use. The matter was taken up with the Corby and District Water Company and subsequent analyses indicated a vast improvement which has been maintained.

The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

No contamination has been discovered during the year.

Typical reports of analyses of water from the Cransley Reservoir, before and after treatment, from the Corby supply, from Clover Hill Well and from the outlet of the Clover Hill Reservoir into the town's mains are given in the following table :

Chemical Results in parts per 1,000,000		22.6.48 Inlet to Filters, Cransley Reservoir	22.6.48 Inlet to Reservoir, Clover Hill (Supply from Cransley)	22.6.48 Inlet to Reservoir, Clover Hill (Supply from Corby)	22.6.48 Well, Clover Hill	22.6.48 Outlet of Reservoir, Clover Hill
Appearance...	...	Very faint opalescence with a flocculent deposit of mineral and organic debris. Many diatoms, a few Chlorophyceae and very few protozoa present	Bright, with a few particles of mineral debris	Bright, with a very slight deposit of mineral and organic debris. A few diatoms and chlorophyceae present	Bright, with a few particles of mineral debris	Bright, with a very slight deposit of mineral and traces of organic debris

WATER TESTS—*continued.*

Colour	Yellow-brown, filtered, slight yellow-brown 20	Less than 10	Less than 10	Nil	Less than 10
Odour	Very faint earthy	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Reaction pH ...	Neutral : 7.3	Neutral : 7.4	On the acid side of neutrality : 6.9	On the acid side of neutrality : 6.8	Neutral : 7.2
Free Carbon Dioxide	10	8	17	75	12
Electric Conductivity at 20°C. ...	490	490	510	1080	520
Total Solids dried at 180°C. ...	330	330	340	720	350
Chlorine in Chlorides	19	19	26	38	23
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate ...	145	140	95	410	130
Hardness : Temporary ...	145	140	95	410	130
Permanent ...	115	125	165	220	135
Total	260	265	260	630	265
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.8	0.4	0.0	6.4	0.4
Nitrogen in Nitrites ...	Less than 0.01	Absent	Absent	Absent	Less than 0.01
Free Ammonia ...	0.012	0.068	0.048	0.000	0.032
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.20	0.094	0.26	0.000	0.16
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.	1.5	0.85	1.5	0.10	1.15
Metals	Iron : 0.18 Manganese : 0.23 Other metals absent	Iron : 0.04 Other metals absent	Iron : 0.06 Manganese : 0.04 Other metals absent	Iron less than 0.03	Iron : 0.04 Manganese : 0.03 Other metals absent
Bacteriological Results Number of bacteria growing on Agar per c.c. or m.l. in 1 day at 37°C. ...	14	0	1	0	0
2 days at 37°C. ...	24	0	1	0	0
3 days at 20°C. ...	130	1	12	0	16
Presumptive Coliform Reaction Present in	50 ml.	—	—	—	—
Absent from ...	10 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.
Bact. Coli, type 1 Present in	50 ml.	—	—	—	—
Absent from ...	10 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.
Cl. Welchii Reaction Present in	100 ml.	—	—	—	—
Absent from ...	10 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.	100 ml.
Remarks	A	B	C	D	E

A.—This sample has faint opalescence and a trace of matter in suspension, the turbidity being perceptible though not marked. The water is neutral in reaction, hard in character but not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of mineral constituents in solution and is free from metals apart from traces of iron and manganese. The colour shown is not marked, the organic quality is satisfactory for the raw supply and bacterial impurity indicative of contamination by excremental matters is confined to the presence of *Bact. coli* in small number. The water is considered readily emendable to treatment for the production of public supply.

B.—This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is hard in character, but not to an excessive degree and contains no excess of mineral constituents in solution. It is free from noticeable colour, of very satisfactory organic purity and of the highest standard of bacterial purity. This result is consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

C.—This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, almost neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from negligible traces of iron and manganese. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree. It contains no excess of mineral constituents in solution. It is free from noticeable colour, of satisfactory organic quality and of the highest standard of bacterial purity. This result is consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

D.—This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is normal with respect to its chemical characteristics and its excessive degree of hardness. It is of the highest standard of organic bacterial purity and in these respects considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.

E.—This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from negligible traces of iron and manganese. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree and contains no excess of mineral constituents in solution. It is free from noticeable colour, of satisfactory organic quality and of the highest standard of bacterial purity. This result is consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

During the year employees of the Water Department were bacteriologically examined in order to exclude the possibility of the water becoming infected.

Since 1919, one thousand and twenty-five houses have been provided with the town's water supply through the agency of the Health Department.

The following table shows the estimated details of the water supply in the town.

	Dwelling Houses	Estimated Population	Percentage
Total Number	10,416	36,840	—
Supplied direct from town's mains	9,989	35,330	95.9%
Supplied from Wells	105	368	1.0%
Supplied from standpipes in yards	273	958	2.6%
Supplied from taps in outbuildings	49	184	0.5%

Drainage and Sewerage.—Tenders have been obtained for the carrying out of the main drainage scheme for Barton Seagrave, which will provide for the drainage of all existing houses in the Barton area. It is hoped that work on the scheme will be commenced almost immediately.

The Ise Valley main trunk sewer is practically complete and it will soon be possible to abandon the temporary ejector plant which has been dealing with the soil drainage from the 56 new houses on the Park View and Pebbleford Estates. The branch sewer to Valley Walk Pumping Station is in course of construction and it will also be possible in 1949 to abandon this pumping station, which takes drainage from Valley Walk and Stamford Road Housing Estates.

Preliminary negotiations are being made with a view to the connecting of the Henry Gotch Schools and Drury's Estate (East Avenue and Southgate Drive) to the trunk sewer instead of to their private sewage disposal plants.

Work on the Finedon Sewage Disposal Works is proceeding and the additional filters are now in operation. The effluent from the works is quite satisfactory and within the Royal Commission standard. Nevertheless it has been deemed advisable to investigate the trade effluent from certain industries in the Borough. Sewage from Burton Latimer has been taken into the new treatment works and proposals made for the acceptance of Isham sewage.

Two hundred and ninety-one cesspool emptyings were carried out during the year, mostly in the Barton Seagrave area.

Two additional septic tank systems have been built in conjunction with the new houses unable to be drained into public sewers.

The surface water drainage of Poplars Farm Road has been carried out during the year.

Rivers and Streams.—The River Nene Catchment Board has carried out various works of straightening, widening and deepening of the River Ise and it was found necessary to extend the storm overflow pipe from the Valley Walk Pumping Station to the new stream to avoid possible pollution of the old river bed. Ministry of Health approval to the scheme has now been obtained.

Rivers and streams generally have been watched for possible pollution.

A scheme for the culverting of West Brook where it abuts the Grafton Street Recreation Ground is now being considered.

Closet Accommodation.—The following table indicates the premises which are not at present connected to the Council's sewers :

	Original Urban District	Barton Seagrave	Total
Houses on the water carriage system to private sewage works	171	—	171
Houses on the water carriage system to septic tanks or cess-pools	26	173	199
Houses with pail, earth or chemical closets, or privy ...	15	96	111
Factory on the water carriage system to septic tank	—	1	1
Total ... ..	...	...	482

Public Cleansing.—Refuse collection and tipping have proceeded satisfactorily and the new tip at Silver Acre has supplemented the diminishing facilities at the London Road Tip.

No further serious flooding has occurred at the London Road Tip, but recently slight ponding was experienced on a portion of the tip ; this has been prevented by raising the contours in this area.

Private Street Works.—No private street works have been carried out by the Corporation during the year, but the following street works have been completed by estate developers—East Avenue and Southgate Drive. Work is proceeding on the West View Estate with a view to the roads being taken over by the Corporation.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The problem of obtaining repairs to dwelling-houses, consequent upon labour and material difficulties, has continued during the year. The situation has been aggravated by the fact that certain contractors who normally devoted their energies to repair work have of necessity had to concentrate on the building of groups of dwelling-houses in the adjacent areas. The removal of the necessity to obtain licences for work costing more than ten pounds will assist in the expedition of work in many instances.

Notwithstanding the problems which have confronted the Department during the year, some 2,743 defects or nuisances were remedied as compared with 2,849 in 1947. Preliminary notices were served in respect of 273 premises and verbal intimations were given regarding 238 premises. Following non-compliance with these notices 48 cautionary letters were sent to the persons concerned.

Four hundred and forty-seven complaints were investigated.

The Council executed work at 13 premises following the non-compliance of statutory notices served upon the owners. The necessary works were carried out under contract in respect of 13 houses and at 10 houses the work was executed by the Council in urgency.

Work was executed as follows :

- at 9 houses under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, at a cost of £130.5.3d.
- at 10 houses under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936, at a cost of 8.9d.
- at 4 houses under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936, at a cost of £103.10.5d.
- at 4 houses under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, at a cost of £36.4.8d.
- at 4 houses under Section 40 of the Public Health Act, 1936, at a cost of £3.3.7d.

House Inspection.—During the year 1,721 houses were inspected for the following reasons :

Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	9
Measured under Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	104
Reviewed under Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	304
Infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	142
In respect of complaints	...	...	...	...	...	309
Coming under observation	...	...	...	...	...	60
At request of builders	...	...	...	...	...	68
At request of owners	...	...	...	...	...	19
At request of Housing Manager and others	...	...	...	...	...	256
Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts, 1920-1939	...	...	...	...	...	14
Searches under Land Charges Act, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	436

Two thousand, one hundred and thirty-four secondary visits were made to ascertain whether defects had been remedied and to supervise work in progress.

Inspections and Visits, etc.

Infectious Diseases :

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	55
„ (revisits)	...	...	...	...	...	11
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	16
„ „ (revisits)	...	...	...	...	...	48
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	17
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	9
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ „ (revisits)	...	...	...	...	...	11
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ (revisits)	...	...	...	...	...	34
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ (revisits)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ (revisits)	...	...	...	...	...	24
Other diseases	...	...	...	...	...	25
„ „ (revisits)	...	...	...	...	...	19
Complaints investigated (all causes)	...	...	...	...	...	477
Factories with mechanical power	...	...	...	...	...	90
„ „ „ (revisits)	...	...	...	...	...	40

Factories without mechanical power	...	...	...	...	27
" " " (revisits)	...	...	...	...	3
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	2
" (revisits)	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	21
" (revisits)	...	...	...	...	4
Milkshops and cowsheds	...	...	...	...	132
" " (revisits)	...	...	...	...	43
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	16
" " (revisits)	...	...	...	...	6

Food premises :

Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	51
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	538
Fish shops	...	...	...	...	50
Food shops	...	...	...	...	178
Vehicles...	...	...	...	...	7
Markets...	...	...	...	...	78
Restaurants and cafes	...	...	...	...	40
Wholesale Meat Supply Association's Depot	...	...	...	...	26
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	87
Railway station...	...	...	...	...	2
Factory canteen	...	...	...	...	1

Secondary inspections	...	...	...	...	2134
Smoke observation	...	...	...	...	15
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919	...	...	...	...	35
Inns, refreshment houses, hotels, etc.	...	...	...	...	13
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	3
Common lodging house	...	...	...	...	6
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	4
Interviews with owners, agents, builders and tenants	...	...	...	...	1538
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	741
Unsuccessful visits	...	...	...	...	699
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	179
Articles of bedding, etc., disinfected	...	...	...	...	3224
Articles of bedding, etc., destroyed	...	...	...	...	281

Baths given for Scabies :

(a) to Kettering school children	...	...	...	70
(b) to other Kettering persons	...	...	...	59
(c) contact baths given to Kettering school children	...	...	...	4
(d) contact baths given to other Kettering persons	...	...	...	29

Smoke test was applied to drains of 57 houses and defects were revealed at 37 houses.

Water test was applied to reconstructed drains on 64 occasions.

Smoke test was applied to repaired drains on 30 occasions.

Notices Served :

(a) Statutory :—

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served :

Under Section 24, Public Health Act, 1936	...	4
Under Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936	...	4
Under Section 40, Public Health Act, 1936	...	4
Under Section 44, Public Health Act, 1936	...	1
Under Section 83, Public Health Act, 1936	...	1
Under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936	...	1
Under Section 9, Housing Act, 1936	...	7

(b) Preliminary :

Notices to execute work or to abate nuisance were served in respect of 273 premises.

Verbal notices were given in respect of 238 premises.

Cautionary letters sent numbered 48.

Sanitary Work carried out.

A. Housing repairs, etc., executed.

New sewer connections	...	...	...	...	...	10
Houses redrained	...	...	...	...	...	27
Houses at which drains were repaired	...	...	...	...	...	68
Intercepting traps fixed	...	...	...	...	...	18
Inspection chambers constructed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	58
Fresh air inlets fixed to drains or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	9
Ventilation pipes fixed to drains or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	...	9
Soil pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Houses provided with town's water supply	...	...	...	...	...	29
Houses provided with internal water supply	...	...	...	...	...	17
Defective W.C. pans and traps removed	...	...	...	...	...	124
Additional W.C.'s constructed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Tipper closets removed and washdown provided	...	...	...	...	...	25
W.C.'s provided with flushing cisterns and water supply	...	...	...	...	...	51
W.C.'s rebuilt or walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	18
Glazed gullies provided	...	...	...	...	...	63
Paving to yards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	66
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	136
Rainwater gutters and downpipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	93
Houses provided with sinks	...	...	...	...	...	11
New sinks provided to replace those defective	...	...	...	...	...	27
New sink waste pipes provided or old repaired	...	...	...	...	...	29
Rooms stripped and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	287
Ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	43
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	119
Walls repaired (internally)	...	...	...	...	...	187
Walls repaired (externally)	...	...	...	...	...	76

Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	129
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	84
Coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Stoves and fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	30
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	49
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	50
Obstruction removed from drains and W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	48
Sub-floor ventilation provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	9
Rooms and bedding cleansed (by tenant)...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cases of overcrowding relieved	...	...	...	...	...	9
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Refuse receptacles provided	...	...	...	...	...	35
Houses, etc., disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	39
Handrails provided or staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
New sashcords fixed	...	...	...	...	...	173
Fasteners and stays provided to windows	...	...	...	...	...	7
Rooms ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	4
Doors, etc., repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	41
Foodstore provided or ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	3
Washhand basins provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Hot water provided to sink and bath	...	...	...	...	...	1
Outbuildings rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	154
Total	...	...	...	...	...	2539

B. Factories (with or without mechanical power) and Other Premises.

Obstructed or defective drains remedied or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective lighting or ventilation remedied	...	...	...	...	...	12
Limewashing and general cleansing carried out	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sanitary accommodation requirements complied with :						
(a) Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Unsuitable	...	...	...	...	...	9
(c) Separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other improvements carried out	...	...	...	...	...	24
Total	...	...	...	...	...	57

C. Bakehouses.

General cleansing carried out	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other improvements carried out	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total	...	...	...	...	...	4

D. Food Premises.

Defective walls or ceilings remedied	...	...	...	2
Defective floors or yard pavings remedied	...	...	...	2
Blocked or defective drains remedied or constructed	...	...	...	3
Defective lighting and ventilation remedied	...	...	...	2
Regular periodic limewashing and general cleansing	...	...	...	11
Hot water supply provided	...	...	...	5
Other improvements carried out	...	...	...	14
Total				39

E. Slaughterhouses.

Blocked or defective drains remedied or constructed	...	...	...	3
Other improvements carried out	...	...	...	2
Total				5

F. Dairies and Ice-cream Premises.

No name and address displayed on stall	...	...	...	1
Improvements carried out	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	3
Total				10

G. Hotels, Restaurant Kitchens and Confectioners' Premises.

Structural defects remedied	...	...	...	1
Limewashing and general cleansing carried out	...	...	...	3
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	3
Other improvements carried out	...	...	...	9
Total				16

H. Fried Fish Shops.

Limewashing and general cleansing carried out	...	...	...	1
New fish-frying range installed	...	...	...	1
Sink provided	...	...	...	1
Structural defects remedied or improvements made	...	...	...	2
Total				5

I. Cinemas.

Rainwater pipes repaired	...	...	...	1
Lighting to W.C. provided	...	...	...	3
Defective W.C. pans and traps renewed	...	...	...	2
Other improvements carried out	...	...	...	9
Total				15

J. Miscellaneous.

Obstructions removed and sewers cleansed	...	...	4
Houses at which name and address of Medical Officer of Health inserted in Rent Book	...	...	8
Houses at which name and address of owner inserted in Rent Book	...	...	8
Permitted Number inserted in Rent Book	...	...	12
Nuisances re tents, vans and sheds abated	...	...	1
Nuisances re animals abated	...	...	2
Houses demolished	...	...	7
Houses converted into business premises...	...	...	1
Other improvements carried out	...	...	10
Total	...	...	53
Grand Total	...	...	2743

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

Common Lodging House.—Six visits were made to the only common lodging house situated in the district. The usual half-yearly limewashing of the premises was duly carried out.

Camping Sites.—No sites in the area were used for holiday camping purposes during 1948.

Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which gives power to local authorities to control the use of movable dwellings does not operate in this district owing to Section 38 of the Kettering Improvement Act, 1904, being in force.

The sanitary condition of the site, which belongs to the Corporation, usually occupied by fairs, etc., on their periodical visits was found to be satisfactory during their sojourn.

Swimming Baths and Pools.—The Covered Swimming Bath was used by 53,063 persons compared with 34,239 in 1939.

The Open Air Bath was used by 22,427 persons compared with 14,229 in 1939.

The Slipper Baths were used by 30,933 persons compared with 10,642 in 1939.

Wicksteed Lake was used for outdoor bathing and efforts were made to minimise any pollution of the River Isle which feeds it.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.—The following statement shows the number of houses infested with bed bugs which were dealt with during the year :

Council houses found to be infested	...	...	3
Other houses found to be infested	...	...	22
Total	...	...	25

Council houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	4
Other houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	35
Total					39

The procedure outlined in the Annual Report for 1938 was again followed and during the year Zaldecide containing D.D.T. was used.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Infestation Order, 1943.—This Act and Order again received full attention during the year. The Sanitary Inspectors made 23 primary and 12 secondary visits to suspected or infested premises.

Excellent work has again been carried out by the Council's Rodent Operative during the year in dealing with the problems of rat infestation.

In the period under review the sewers in the central portion of the Borough were subjected to maintenance treatments with the following results:

SEWER MAINTENANCE TREATMENT.

	FIRST	SECOND	TOTAL
1. Sections	I. to VI.	I. to VI.	—
2. Number of manholes baited	254	243	497
3. Number of manholes showing pre-bait takes	60	67	127
4. Number of manholes showing complete pre-bait take (on one or both days)	39	53	92
5. Number of manholes test-baited in conjunction with this treatment and not included in Sections I. to VI. above	70	91	161
6. Number of complete takes in paragraph 5 above	2	—	2

A defective sewer was the cause of 1 infestation which was satisfactorily cleared after the repair had been effected.

Occupiers of infested premises made 226 applications for the services of the Rodent Operative. All infestations were of a minor degree, due no doubt to the successful rat destruction previously carried out in the town.

The following table indicates the results (excluding sewer treatment) of the action taken by the Public Health Department during 1948:

Number of visits by Rodent Operative	...	...	...	700
Number of rats destroyed (excluding those poisoned)	...	...	...	213
Number of mice destroyed	...	...	...	18
Number of occasions traps used	...	...	...	70
Number of occasions poison gas used	...	...	...	4

Number of occasions dogs and/or ferrets used	...	...	53
Quantity of poison laid (ozs.)	Zinc phosphide	...	674½
Quantity of poison taken (ozs.)	„	„	405
Quantity of poison laid (ozs.)	Red squill	...	8
Quantity of poison taken (ozs.)	„	„	5
Number of rats found poisoned	...	...	205

The systematic survey of the town was completed in March, 1948, and only a very few minor infestations were found. These infestations were promptly dealt with.

Factories and Workshops.—The following tables show the work done under the Factories Act, 1937.

1. **Inspections** (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors) :

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	42	27	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	246	90	8*	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	21	2	—	—
TOTAL	309	119	8*	Nil

* Informal.

2. Cases in which **Defects** were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	15	5	—	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	1	12	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) insufficient ...	3	1	—	2	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	31	9	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	12	29	—	2	—
TOTAL	62	57	Nil	5	Nil

Outwork in unwholesome premises Nil

HOUSING.

The present restricted building of houses, whether by the Council or for owner-occupation, consequent upon labour and material difficulties, continues to be an important factor in the demand for housing accommodation. There were in January, 1948 approximately 1,800 live applications for houses on the Council's register awaiting consideration.

Deterioration continues to be shown in those dwelling-houses which were scheduled in 1943 for consideration for demolition under the Housing Act, 1936, in the Council's first post-war programme. The occupants of 4 of these dwelling-houses were rehoused during the year in consequence of the conditions that prevailed. The hope is once again expressed that circumstances will allow action to be taken to rehouse the occupants of the unsatisfactory dwelling-houses in the very near future, for not only is it extremely difficult to maintain them on even an exceedingly low standard, but their present condition is a menace to the health and well-being of the occupants.

An interesting feature noted during the year was the increased number of dwelling-houses which have been purchased by their existing occupiers. This fact has had the effect of improvement being voluntarily executed to these dwelling-houses. Four hundred and thirty-six Requisitions for a Search under the Land Charges Act, 1925, were received and the required information given in respect of the properties concerned.

On the 31st December, 1948 there were 58 overcrowded dwellings on the register and cases continue to come to the notice of the Department. During the year 194 reports were furnished to the Housing Manager in respect of applications for Council houses from persons living in overcrowded or otherwise unsatisfactory conditions.

Form B has been compiled in respect of 7,106 houses and certificates stating the permitted number have been issued in respect of 6,818 houses.

In December, 1930, a schedule of 136 houses which it was considered should receive attention as being unfit for human habitation was prepared. From time to time additions were made to this list until a total of 245 houses was reached.

The position on the 31st December, 1948, regarding the above 245 houses proposed to be dealt with under the Housing Act was as follows :

Houses rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	5
Houses demolished in clearance areas	...	...	...	...	...	24
Houses unoccupied in clearance areas	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses occupied in clearance areas	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses demolished (including conversion to business premises, added to adjoining dwelling house or demolished through outstanding closing orders, Housing Act, 1925)	...	...	...	...	...	160

Houses unoccupied with demolition orders operative ...	6
Houses occupied with demolition orders operative ...	Nil
Houses unoccupied with undertakings accepted not to re-let	14
Houses occupied with undertakings accepted not to re-let	Nil
Part of dwelling-house closed, Housing Act, 1936 ...	1
Houses awaiting consideration	29

245

Persons displaced during the years 1928—1930... ..	78
1931—1947... ..	666

Persons displaced during the year 1948 :

To Council houses	14
To other premises	Nil

758

Number of houses rendered fit under Part II. of the Housing Act, 1930, and Part II. of the Housing Act, 1936 :

As a result of formal action	150
As a result of informal notice preliminary to formal notice	628

778

Number of dwelling-houses erected during the year :

(a) 1. By Local Authority	122
2. By other Local Authorities	4
3. By other bodies or persons	64

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts
(Included in (a))

1. By Local Authority	122
2. By other Local Authorities	4

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	983
--	-----

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	983
--	-----

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	9
--	---

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	9
--	---

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
---	---

(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	400
-----	--	-----

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	639
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	7
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	9

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	6
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	14

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	Nil

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ...	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil
	Demolished in clearance areas	Nil

4. **Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding :**

(1) (a)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at 31st December, 1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
(b)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...					114
(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...					501
(2)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
(3) (a)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
(b)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...						419
(4)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During May and June a series of 4 lectures to food handlers was given by Dr. E. H. Gillespie of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Leicester. The 3 lectures for food handlers of the supervisory grades, i.e., managers, kitchen superintendents, etc., were :

1. Food-borne infections : sources and modes of spread.
2. What a food handler can do.
3. Hygiene in the kitchen.

The lectures for junior grades of food handlers, i.e., waitresses, shop assistants, etc., were essentially simple and of practical nature. All lectures were demonstrated with bacteriological specimens.

Discussions followed each lecture and the questions asked by the food handlers proved the keen interest which employees in the food and drink industry are now showing in the prevention of infection in the course of their work.

Several expressed their difficulty in obtaining necessary equipment owing to restrictions and the shortage of materials.

One hundred and seventy-five visits to cowsheds, dairies and milk shops were made during the year.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1941.

Number of dairymen licensed to pasteurise milk	...	2
Number of dairymen licensed to retail pasteurised milk		3
Number of dairymen licensed to retail tuberculin-tested milk	...	13
Number of dairymen licensed to bottle tuberculin-tested milk	...	2
Number of retailers licensed to bottle accredited milk		2
Number of samples of pasteurised milk submitted for the phosphatase test	...	26

Number of samples of pasteurised milk on examination found satisfactory to the phosphatase test	26
Number of samples of pasteurised milk submitted for the methylene blue test	26
Number of samples of pasteurised milk which were satisfactory to the methylene blue test	26
Number of samples of " heat treated " milk submitted to the phosphatase test	30
Number of samples of " heat treated " milk on examination found satisfactory to the phosphatase test ...	28
Number of samples of " heat treated " milk submitted for the methylene blue test	30
Number of samples of " heat treated " milk satisfactory to the methylene blue test	30

One hundred and thirty-eight samples of raw milk were submitted for examination by the methylene blue test with the following results :

95 samples were satisfactory.

1	„	decolourised before	5½ hours.
6	„	„	5 „
1	„	„	4½ „
7	„	„	4 „
5	„	„	3½ „
6	„	„	3 „
3	„	„	2½ „
3	„	„	2 „
3	„	„	1½ „
3	„	„	1 hour.
5	„	„	½ „

The above table shows that 68.8 per cent. of the samples of raw milk attained the standard for accredited milk as compared with 64.3 per cent. in 1947 and 68.5 per cent. in 1946.

Thirty-three samples of milk (8 tuberculin tested, 21 accredited, 4 ordinary) were submitted to microscopical and biological examination for tubercle bacilli. Negative results were obtained.

Ice-cream.—Twenty-three samples of ice-cream were taken from 13 producers or retailers with the following results :

Bacteriological Examination.

Producer or Retailer	Type of Mix	Plate Count per c.c.	Probable number of Coliform Bacilli per c.c.	Probable number of Faecal Coli per c.c.
A	Cold mix	15,000	2	0
B	„ „	3,000	0	0
C	„ „	20,000	110	0
D	„ „	5,000	2	0
E	„ „	50,000	2	0
F	Heat treated	60,000	2	2

Methylene Blue Test.

Producer or Retailer	Number of Samples	Grade
A	1	2
	1	4
F	2	1
	1	2
	3	3
*G	1	4
*H	1	1
I	1	2
	1	3
J	1	1
	1	3
K	1	1
L	1	2
*M	1	4

* Out-of-district producer and retailer.

Producer ' F ' is arranging to instal complete new plant in the early part of 1949.

Manufacturers and retailers concerned have been informed of the results of samples taken and in the case of unsatisfactory samples producers have been advised of the importance of raising the standard of ice-cream to a satisfactory state of bacterial purity.

Meat and Other Foods.—Centralised slaughtering under the control of the Ministry of Food was continued for the ninth successive year at the only licensed slaughterhouse which remains in use in the Borough.

The slaughterhouse at present in use, despite recent minor improvements, leaves much to be desired. The premises were adapted for the purpose in 1936 as a temporary measure pending the provision of more suitable accommodation. It is again hoped that a public abattoir will be provided in the very near future.

Five hundred and thirty-eight visits were made and 11,505 animals were inspected.

Eighty-five visits were made to the Cattle and General Markets and also to meat vehicles.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1776	817	813	7902	197
Number inspected ...	1776	817	813	7902	197
All diseases, except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned	6	13	16	70	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	592	358	11	234	29
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	33.67%	45.41%	3.32%	3.84%	18.27%
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned	9	49	9	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	263	318	—	—	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	15.32%	44.92%	0.49%	—	4.57%

Thirty-one slaughtermen were licensed in accordance with the requirements of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. No contra-vention of this Act was found.

Mr. E. W. Hudson, M.R.C.V.S., the local Veterinary Inspector for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, attends the Cattle Market each week to deal with any case coming within the purview of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts, 1894-1935.

As a result of visits being made to premises where food is prepared or sold it was found necessary to condemn and destroy as being unfit for human food 54 tons and 20 lbs. of food material. Five hundred and one certificates were issued in respect of unfit home-killed, imported and tinned meats, and in addition three hundred and seventy-six certificates were issued to traders to enable them to obtain compensation in respect of other unfit foods.

Bakehouses.—Twenty-five visits were made to bakehouses ; as a result of these visits 4 matters received attention.

Fried Fish Shops.—Fifty visits were made to these premises ; as a result of these visits 5 matters received attention.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis) During the year 1948.

The following table gives the number and age groups of the cases notified :

Disease.	All Ages 1947	All Ages 1948	Under 1 year	1 to 3 years	3 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	10 to 15 years	15 to 25 years	25 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 and over	Removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small-pox ...	nil.	nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	97	80	-	5	25	36	7	6	1	-	-	45	-
Diphtheria ...	1	nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever (including Typhoid & Paratyphoid) ...	2	5	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	1	-	5	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	2	-
Pneumonia ...	18	15	-	1	-	3	-	1	6	3	1	-	-
Erysipelas ...	8	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	5	2	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	6	21	-	2	2	7	-	5	5	-	-	15	3
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ...	nil.	4	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
Measles ...	690	594	17	155	249	159	7	2	3	-	2	1	-
Whooping Cough ...	202	204	14	53	91	43	2	-	1	-	-	2	-
Malaria ...	nil.	nil.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning ...	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
Totals ...	1030	947	33	217	367	249	16	20	25	12	8	72	3

Summary of Cases of Infectious Diseases in Wards, 1948.

Disease				Totals	Kingsley	Northfield	St. Andrew's	Avondale	St. Peter's	St. Mary's	Barton
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	80	9	7	6	18	20	12	8
Diphtheria	...	...	...	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	4	—	—	1	—	2	1	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	15	2	2	1	3	5	—	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	15	1	2	2	1	3	—	6
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	21	3	3	2	3	2	—	8
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	4	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	594	54	71	68	136	92	62	111
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	204	7	14	15	61	22	39	46
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
TOTALS	...	...	...	947	77	99	95	224	154	115	183

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

Total number of outbreaks	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each
4	1	Nil	Salmonella Typhimurium	No specific commodity found
	1	Nil	„	„
	*1	Nil	Salmonella bovis morbificans	„
	1	Nil	Unknown	„

* Not notified.

Small-pox.—No cases of this disease occurred.

Typhus.—No cases of this disease occurred.

Scarlet Fever.—Eighty cases were notified, a decrease of 17 compared with the figure for the previous year. Forty-five or 56.25% were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital ; no deaths occurred.

Diphtheria.—There has been no case of diphtheria this year. The last confirmed case occurred in 1947 ; in 1946 there was also 1 case. When children are immunised against diphtheria in infancy, the parents are advised to arrange for them to have a boosting dose

of prophylactic at the age of 4 to 5 years when they are admitted to school and again about the 8th year to maintain a safe level of immunity.

The following information has been extracted from a Ministry of Health circular.

Totals of deaths and original notifications during the past 9 years have been as follows :

Year	Diphtheria Deaths	Cases
1940	2,480	46,281
1941	2,641	50,797
1942	1,827	41,404
1943	1,371	34,662
1944	934	29,949
1945	722	25,246
1946	472	18,283
1947	244*	10,465*
1948	150*	8,034*

* Provisional.

The number of cases in 1948 was also the lowest ever recorded, being about 47,000 below the average of 55,000 obtaining in the 10-year period 1931/40. Apart from the avoidance of unnecessary suffering, this has resulted in substantial savings in hospital costs and has freed medical and nursing personnel for other work.

Enteric Fever.—Four cases of paratyphoid fever which occurred in non-residents were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. One case of typhoid fever occurred and was nursed at the Kettering and District General Hospital.

Pneumonia.—Fifteen cases were notified compared with 18 in 1947 ; 21 deaths were attributed to pneumonia (all forms), the figure for the previous year being 15.

Erysipelas.—Fifteen cases were notified compared with 8 in 1947. Two were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis).—In 1947 there were 6 notified cases of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis. Twenty-one cases were notified and confirmed from 1st August to 2nd December in 1948.

The attack rate was 0.57 per 1,000 total population. There were 19 paralytic and 2 non-paralytic cases. Three cases ended fatally, giving a case fatality of 14.28%.

One was a boy aged 7.10/12ths years who died the day he was admitted to the Kettering and District General Hospital while undergoing treatment in a Both respirator. A female, aged 28 years, died 3 days after admission to the Kettering Infectious Diseases Hospital. This case was complicated by asthma and early pregnancy. The third fatal case, a female aged 17, was treated in a respirator for 8 days and succumbed from broncho-pneumonia. She was completely paralysed.

Two cases occurred in the same household with 6 days between the dates of onset, but as there is no exact limit for the incubation period of Anterior Poliomyelitis it is impossible to know whether the infection was contracted from a common source or from one another.

The cases were scattered over the various wards of the Borough and were not confined to one area. (Chart II.—Page 39).

Some of the groups of cases appeared to be related to direct or indirect school contact.

Rockingham Road Nursery Class	had 1 notified case
Park Road Infant School	„ 1 „ „
Rockingham Road Infant School	„ 1 „ „
Henry Gotch Infant School	„ 3 „ cases
Henry Gotch Junior Mixed School	„ 1 „ case
Stamford Rd. Junior Mixed School	„ 1 „ „

Dr. C. M. Smith, the School Medical Officer, closed all departments of the Henry Gotch School (680 scholars on roll) from 7th to 25th October as a precautionary measure. The Minister of Health was notified by telephone of the occurrence of the cases on 7th October.

The ages of the cases ranged from 1.4/12ths to 44 years and the age and sex incidence is shown in Chart I.—Page 38. From this it will be seen that no age is now exempt and therefore the term “ Infantile Paralysis ” is a misnomer.

Three cases (2 girls and a boy) occurred in children not attending school ; 8 cases (6 boys, 2 girls) in school children ; 10 cases (6 males, 4 females) were persons over school age.

Approximately half the patients were under 15 years of age and one-fifth under 5.

Two adults from a neighbouring village admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Kettering and one from another town in the vicinity admitted to Northampton Infectious Diseases Hospital had close association with Kettering.

The cases were visited and examined in their homes. The contacts of cases were followed up, questioned and examined and advice given.

Many suspected cases were examined in consultation with their medical practitioner and throughout the outbreak there was excellent co-operation between the local doctors, schools and firms and the Public Health Department.

An intensive detailed investigation was carried out to ascertain the sources of food and drinks consumed by the patients, but no likely common source of infection was discovered.

The usual water supply, drainage and environmental enquiries gave no clue to the spread of the disease.

All results of the investigations suggest that infection is conveyed by personal contact with a paralytic case, an abortive case or a healthy carrier.

The spread of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis is difficult to control because it has been estimated that for every case with obvious symptoms there are 10 to 20 with mild indefinite illness (abortive

cases). There are also perfectly healthy carriers who cannot be recognised by any known diagnostic test.

Notification figures are misleading, as they do not include mild transient and therefore usually unrecognised cases.

Three cases occurred in the Kettering and District General Hospital. Ten cases were admitted to the Kettering Infectious Diseases Hospital and owing to staff shortage at the latter hospital 2 cases were sent to Northampton Isolation Hospital and 7 remained at home as adequate isolation and attention were available.

As soon as any danger of infection was past, patients requiring further treatment were admitted to Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital. The remainder who were able to attend as out-patients for treatment and observation attended either the Manfield Orthopaedic Clinic or the General Hospital Out-Patients' Department.

In 2 cases no paralysis occurred. Eight cases made a complete recovery without any impairment. Three, (2 males, 1 female) are still in-patients at Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital and 5 are attending as out-patients.

Up to the present there is no known serum or drug which will protect, cure or modify Anterior Poliomyelitis.

In October and November Dr. A. M. McFarlan, a specialist "field worker" in virus diseases, visited Kettering and gave valuable help. At his suggestion investigations as to the cause of Anterior Poliomyelitis were instituted.

Specimens from the cases were sent to the Pharmaceutical Society, London, to assist Dr. G. W. M. Findlay, C.B.E., in his experimental work in connection with this disease.

During the outbreak Mr. Dockrell, Orthopaedic Surgeon, visited the Infectious Diseases Hospital and held consultations with the Medical Officer of Health.

The measures taken to check the spread of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis in the Borough included :

1. Suspension of operations for the removal of tonsils and adenoids.
2. Medical practitioners in Kettering and neighbourhood, County and district medical officers of health were informed and given confidential information of each notified case. Alphabetical lists of names with addresses of absentees, school 'bus and class contacts of a school case were sent to doctors.
3. Conferences and consultations were held with School Medical Officer, practitioners, teachers and Orthopaedic Surgeon.
4. School absentees, class and home contacts of cases and work contacts of adult cases were followed up and advised.
5. Investigation and strict isolation of definite and suspected cases. Sanitary Inspectors reported on the premises and disinfection was carried out.
6. Careful search was made for missed and abortive cases.
7. School contacts of confirmed cases were excluded from school for 3 weeks.
8. Employers of contacts who were food handlers were advised to arrange other work for the contact which would not involve handling of food.

- 9. Heads of local firms were asked to report to the Medical Officer of Health illnesses in other personnel when a case occurred in one of their employees.
- 10. Tracing of possible sources of infection.
- 11. Water at swimming baths was kept at a high level of chlorination.
- 12. School swimming classes were suspended to prevent over-fatigue and close contact of children of susceptible ages.
- 13. Swimming galas were postponed or cancelled.
- 14. Saturday morning cinema clubs were closed.
- 15. Children were discouraged from attending crowded assemblies.
- 16. Clubs were advised not to admit children.
- 17. During the outbreak the United Counties Omnibus Company Limited sprayed 'buses with sodium hypochlorite solution.
- 18. Leaflets were distributed to teachers, heads of firms and houses where cases occurred.
- 19. Arrangements made for the film "Poliomyelitis—Diagnosis and Management," to be shown to the Kettering and District Medical Society.
- 20. Pools were sprayed.
- 21. The School Medical Officer was recommended to use sodium hypochlorite to disinfect crockery and cutlery in the school canteens, as the virus causing acute anterior poliomyelitis is destroyed by sodium hypochlorite.

It is difficult to assess what effect, if any, the preventive measures used had in controlling the spread of the disease.

It is well to remember " that both disease and immunity are the outcome of infection."

Chart I.
Age and Sex Incidence of Anterior Poliomyelitis.

Years	0–	5–	10–	15–	20–	25–	30–	35–	40 +	Total
Males	2	5	—	1	3	—	—	—	2	13
Females	2	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	8
Totals	4	7	—	3	3	1	—	—	3	21

CHART II.

Case	Onset	Sex	Age yrs. mths.	School	Ward	Occupation	Paralysis	Residual Paralysis
1.	19.8.48	F	2 3	...	Avondale	...	Moderate	Under treatment still
2.	10.9.48	F	7 1	Park Road Infant	Kingsley	...	Moderate	In-patient, Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital
3.	24.9.48	M	5 4	Henry Gotch Infant	Barton	...	Severe	In-patient, Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital
4.	26.9.48	M	7 10	Henry Gotch Junior Mixed	Barton	...	Severe	Died in respirator on 5.10.48 at Kettering General Hospital
5.	4.10.48	M	5 8	Henry Gotch Infant	Barton	...	Slight	None
6.	4.10.48	F	28 0	...	Avondale	Housewife ...	Severe	Died on 13.10.48 at Infectious Diseases Hospital
7.	4.10.48	F	15 1	...	Avondale	Box factory employee ...	Slight	None. (Observation at Manfield Out-Patients' Department)
8.	4.10.48	M	7 2	Rockingham Road Infant	Northfield	...	Slight	None. do. do.
9.	5.10.48	M	21 0	...	Barton	Boot & Shoe operative ...	Moderate	Attending Ophthalmic Dept., Kettering General Hospital
10.	11.10.48	F	17 0	...	Barton	Shop Assistant ...	Severe	Died in respirator on 22.10.48 at Infectious Diseases Hospital
11.	11.10.48	M	43 0	...	St. Andrew's	Boot & Shoe operative ...	Slight	None
12.	12.10.48	M	6 9	Henry Gotch Infant	Barton	...	Severe	In-patient, Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital
13.	12.10.48	M	1 4	...	Northfield	...	Slight	Attending Manfield Out-Patients' Department
14.	19.10.48	F	8 0	Stamford Rd. Junior Mixed	Kingsley	...	Slight	Attending Kettering General Hospital Out-Patients' Dept.
15.	21.10.48	M	40 0	...	St. Peter's	Sorter, Post Office ...	Slight	None
16.	24.10.48	F	3 8	...	Barton	...	Slight	Attending Ophthalmic Out-Patients' Department, Kettering General Hospital
17.	27.10.48	M	4 6	Rockingham Rd. Nursery Class	Northfield	...	Slight	—
18.	1.11.48	M	17 4	...	St. Peter's	Plumber's mate	—	None
19.	2.11.48	F	44 0	...	Barton	Housewife ...	Slight	None
20.	8.11.48	M	25 0	...	Kingsley	Wood Driller	Slight	None
21.	21.11.48	M	23 0	...	St. Andrew's	Boot & Shoe operative ...	Slight	None
TOTAL	M—13 F — 8			Rockingham Road Nursery Park Road Infant ... Rockingham Road Infant ... Henry Gotch Infant ... Henry Gotch Junior Mixed ... Stamford Rd. Junior Mixed ...	1 1 1 3 1 1	Avondale Kingsley Barton Northfield St. Andrew's St. Peter's	Slight Moderate Severe No paralysis	No residual paralysis ... Still having treatment ... Non-paralytic cases ... Fatal ...

SLIGHT—means not likely to interfere with normal life or to require long stay in-patient hospital treatment.
MODERATE—means likely to need long stay hospital treatment but with a good prospect of an ultimate return to normal life.
SEVERE—means not likely to return to normal life.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.—No case was notified.

Dysentery.—Four cases of dysentery were notified. One case was admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Whooping Cough.—Two hundred and four cases were notified, 1 of which had complications and was admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and 1 which occurred in the Kettering and District General Hospital was nursed there. Both were discharged cured.

Measles.—Five hundred and ninety-four cases were notified. One case was admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Chicken-pox, Mumps and German Measles.—These diseases are not notifiable.

Influenza.—This disease caused a certain amount of illness but it did not by any means reach epidemic proportions. No deaths were attributed to it.

Food Poisoning.—Three cases were notified, and 1 case was not notified. No definite commodity was found to be the cause of the infections on investigations being carried out.

Gastro-enteritis.—On the 12th November, 1948, the occurrence between the 9th and 11th of November of 10 cases of gastro-enteritis affecting a nursery class and 1 member of the nursery staff, was brought to the notice of the Public Health Department by the head teacher.

The School Medical Officer was notified by telephone and an investigation was carried out at the school the same afternoon. No food partaken during the 3 days could be traced. No cause was discovered and specimens submitted for bacteriological examination gave negative results.

All the cases were mild and of short duration.

Tuberculosis.—The Northamptonshire County Council is the authority responsible for tuberculosis in the Borough. Thirty-eight cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified in 1948. In 1947 the figures were 35 and 9 respectively. The Registrar-General returns the number of deaths from tuberculosis as : pulmonary 18, non-pulmonary 2. These figures differ from those compiled locally, which are shown in the following table. In 1947 the figures given by the Registrar-General were 18 and 4.

New cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
5 to 10 ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
15 to 20 ...	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 25 ...	3	3	—	—	2	4	—	—
25 to 35 ...	5	6	—	—	1	—	—	—
35 to 45 ...	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 to 55 ...	6	1	—	—	5	—	—	—
55 to 65 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	26	12	1	1	11	5	—	1

Form I. (Patients admitted to Sanatoria) 29
Form II. (Patients discharged from Sanatoria) 20

Mass Radiography Unit.—The second survey in the town by the Mass Radiography Unit commenced at the end of November and continued until March, 1949. It is hoped that the result of the Survey will be available for inclusion in the report for 1949.

Scabies.—The number of cases of scabies decreased from 110 in 1947 to 64. These patients were dealt with at the Disinfecting Station, where they were given 128 baths followed by treatment with benzyl-benzoate emulsion. They included 35 Kettering school children who were given 70 baths and 29 other Kettering persons who were given 58 baths. In addition 33 contacts were given preventive treatment.

Disinfecting and Cleansing Station.—The 64 cases of scabies and 33 contacts mentioned in the preceding paragraph were dealt with at the Disinfecting and Cleansing Station. Three thousand two hundred and twenty-four articles of clothing and bedding were disinfected by steam or hot air, a decrease of 2,485 on the figures for 1947. Two hundred and eighty-one articles were destroyed at the request of the owners.

One hundred and seventy-nine rooms were disinfected. The reasons for disinfection are shown in the undermentioned table :

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	70
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	7
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	17
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	42
Cancer	...	...	...	...	37
Other diseases	...	...	...	...	5

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Services of the Borough were transferred to the Northamptonshire County Council on 5th July, 1948 in accordance with the National Health Service Act, 1946 and this section of the report, therefore, relates only to the period 1st January to 4th July, 1948.

Ante-natal and Post-natal Supervision.—Three ante-natal sessions were held weekly except that in the first week of each month 1 of these sessions was devoted to post-natal cases.

For cases completed during the year the average number of attendances at the Ante-natal Clinic was 10.64.

The relationship which the number of women from the Borough attending the Ante-natal Clinic bears to the total number of children born to mothers residing in Kettering is 27.1%. Fifty-one or 58.62% of the Kettering expectant mothers who attended the Ante-natal Clinic and were confined during the year were re-examined at the Post-natal Clinic.

The members of the Ladies' Voluntary Committee continued to give valuable assistance at the Welfare Clinics throughout the period.

The following table gives particulars of the work carried out :

Ante-natal Clinic :

Sessions held	65
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Expectant mothers :

First attendance in 1947	...	...	...	87
First attendance in 1948 up to 4/7/1948	...	...	...	138
Total attending	...	...	...	225
Re-attendances in 1948 up to 4/7/1948	...	...	...	813
Total attendances in 1948 up to 4/7/1948	...	...	...	951
Average attendance per session	...	...	...	14.63

Cases sent by doctors	68
Cases sent by midwives	1
Cases sent by health visitors	2
Cases sent by another patient	8
Cases sent by others	1
Cases came on own initiative	58
Primigravidae examined at first visit in 1948	98
Multigravidae examined at first visit in 1948	127
Normal labours	82

Abnormal labours :

Breech (multiparae)	2
Premature	1
Instrumental delivery for toxæmia ...	1
Caesarean section (contracted pelvis) ...	1

Abortions	4
Miscarriages	1
Not pregnant	2
Left town	6
Transferred to doctors	14
Transferred to district nurses	14
Undelivered on 4/7/1948	97

Post-natal Clinic :

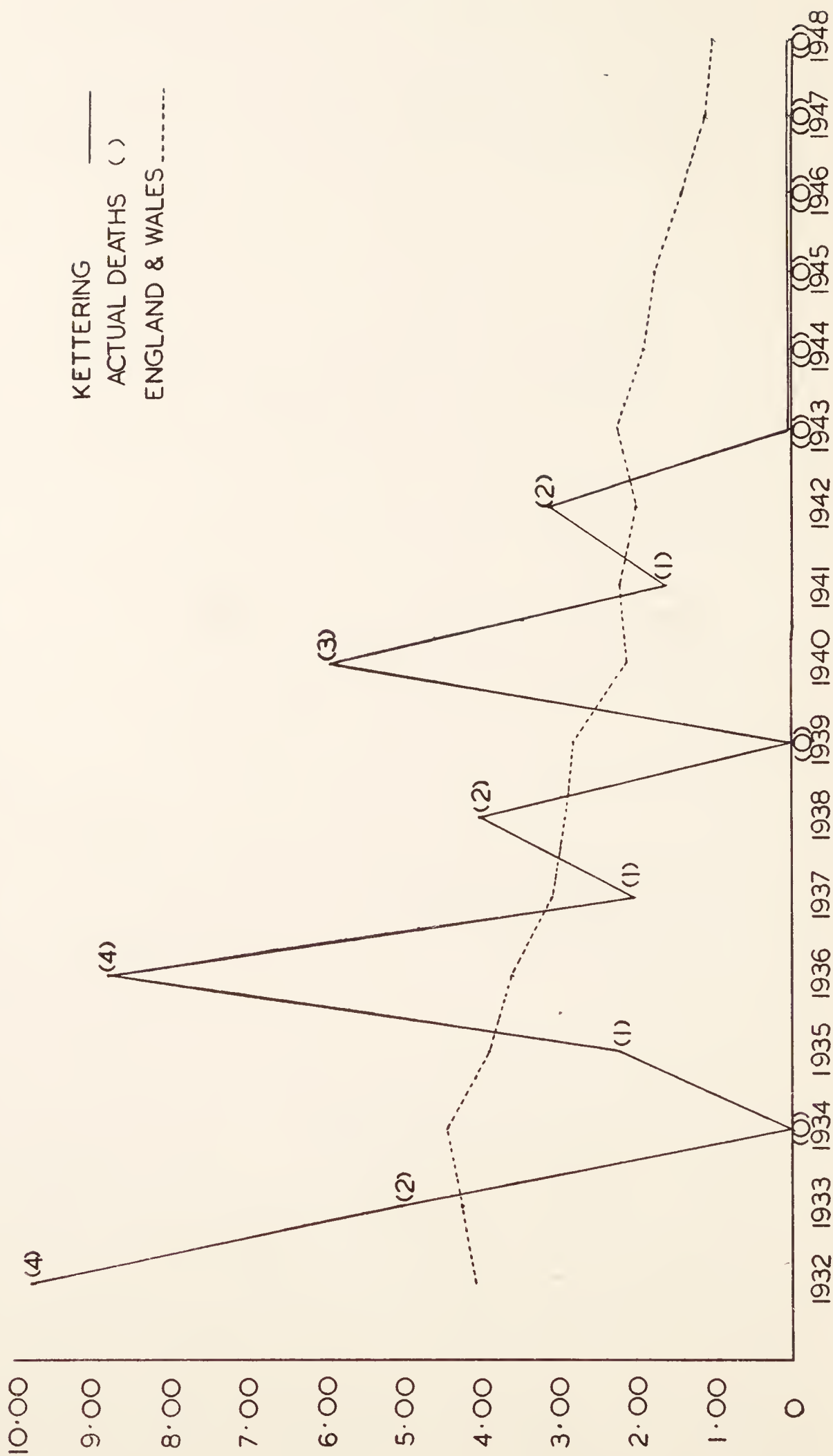
Sessions held to 4/7/1948	6
First attendances in 1948 to 4/7/1948 ...	51
Re-attendances in 1948 „ „	9
Total attendances „ „	60
Average attendance per session to 4/7/1948	10.0

Visits of midwives, friends, etc.	438
Patients sent for X-ray examination	1
Patients advised dental treatment	44
Patients referred to private doctors	23
Patients referred to V.D. Clinic	2
Patients referred to Tuberculosis Officer ...	1
Patients referred to Ophthalmic Surgeon... ..	1
Patients referred to Birth Control Clinic ...	1
Letters to doctors, hospitals, etc.	84

Maternal Mortality.—No deaths of women resident in the Borough were classified by the Registrar-General to pregnancy or child bearing. This is the sixth successive year in which this return has been nil.

MATERNAL DEATH RATES

PER 1000 TOTAL BIRTHS.



Puerperal Pyrexia.—Four cases were notified, one occurred in hospital and all were Kettering residents.

Below is given information regarding the maternity cases received in the various institutions :

(1) Kettering and District General Hospital.—Thirty-three women who were referred by Mr. Watson were admitted under the Borough Council's Scheme. Nine children, of whom the mother of one was a Kettering resident, were stillborn. The average number of days in hospital of the mothers was 14.15. In accordance with the arrangements mentioned in the Report for 1943, 15 women were discharged before the expiration of 14 days from the birth of the baby :

2 on the 5th day.
1 on the 6th day.
1 on the 7th day.
2 on the 8th day.
2 on the 9th day.
2 on the 10th day.
1 on the 11th day.
1 on the 12th day.
3 on the 13th day.

(2) Kettering London Road Hospital.—Fifty-one women resident in Kettering were received in this institution.

(3) St. John's Emergency Maternity Home, Weston Favell.—One expectant mother resident in Kettering was admitted and was transferred to Park Hospital, Wellingborough.

(4) Barratt Maternity Home, Northampton.—One woman resident in the Borough was on the advice of the Consultant Obstetrician admitted under his care.

Premature Infants.—The arrangements for the care of premature infants were set out in the Report for 1944. During the period under review various articles—cots, blankets, mattresses, hot water bottles, electric blanket pads, etc., provided by the Borough Council were loaned from the Stockburn Memorial Home for use in the care of premature babies.

Nine premature babies were born at home, 8 were nursed entirely at home and 1 was admitted to hospital. One died within the first 24 hours of life and 8 were living at the end of 1 month.

Eleven premature babies, the mothers of 5 of whom were not resident in Kettering, were born in hospitals or nursing homes and 8 were alive at the end of 1 month.

Consultant Obstetrician.—Twelve applications for Mr. Watson's services on behalf of Kettering residents were received from medical practitioners prior to the 5th July, 1948.

Emergency Unit for Maternity Cases.—This service was not required during the period under review.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children.—Under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme of the Council arrangements are made for unmarried mothers to attend the ante-natal and post-natal clinics and to be admitted to the various local hospitals on the same conditions as married women.

The Welfare Worker of the Kettering Social Welfare League has been able to place satisfactorily a number of unmarried mothers in residential institutions where after confinement they receive training in mothercraft and domestic work.

Home Helps.—No applications for help were received.

Supply of Sheets.—Three hundred and five coupon equivalent vouchers for sheets were issued at the Ante-natal Clinic in the School Lane Centre to 150 expectant mothers in order to facilitate their confinements at home. In each instance a certificate was received from the midwife booked for the case stating that the woman was genuinely in need of sheets. The vouchers were presented to traders who supplied at current controlled prices and free of purchase tax one sheet in exchange for each voucher.

Notification of Births.—The births of 173 male and 146 female infants born alive to parents resident in the Borough were notified to the Medical Officer of Health. In addition 94 children whose parents were not ordinarily resident in the Borough were born.

The percentage of illegitimate children in the total number of births during the last 10 years is given below ; it indicates one result of war conditions :

Percentage of illegitimate births						
1939	...	...	...	...	...	5.84
1940	...	...	...	...	...	4.48
1941	...	...	...	...	...	6.81
1942	...	...	...	...	...	7.36
1943	...	...	...	...	...	7.41
1944	...	...	...	...	...	9.86
1945	...	...	...	...	...	11.14
1946	...	...	...	...	...	7.13
1947	...	...	...	...	...	4.83
1948	...	...	...	...	...	6.13

Stillbirths.—Ten stillbirths were registered—this gives a proportion of 1 stillborn child to 65.9 living children. The still-birth rate was 14.95 per 1,000 total births and 0.27 per 1,000 total population.

The stillbirth rates for the last 10 years were :

Year				Rate per 1,000 total births	Rate per 1,000 total population
1939	...	...	...	51.17	0.71
1940	...	...	...	32.53	0.39
1941	...	...	...	43.47	0.61
1942	...	...	...	40.81	0.70
1943	...	...	...	31.43	0.59
1944	...	...	...	30.95	0.65
1945	...	...	...	16.08	0.31
1946	...	...	...	8.66	0.17
1947	...	...	...	26.81	0.55
1948	...	...	...	14.95	0.27

Infantile Mortality.—Nineteen deaths of infants under 1 year occurred during the year, which gives an infantile death rate of 28.83 per 1,000 live births. The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 34. Nine or 47.4% of the deaths occurred in the first week of life and 10 or 52.6% in the period from the second week to the twelfth month.

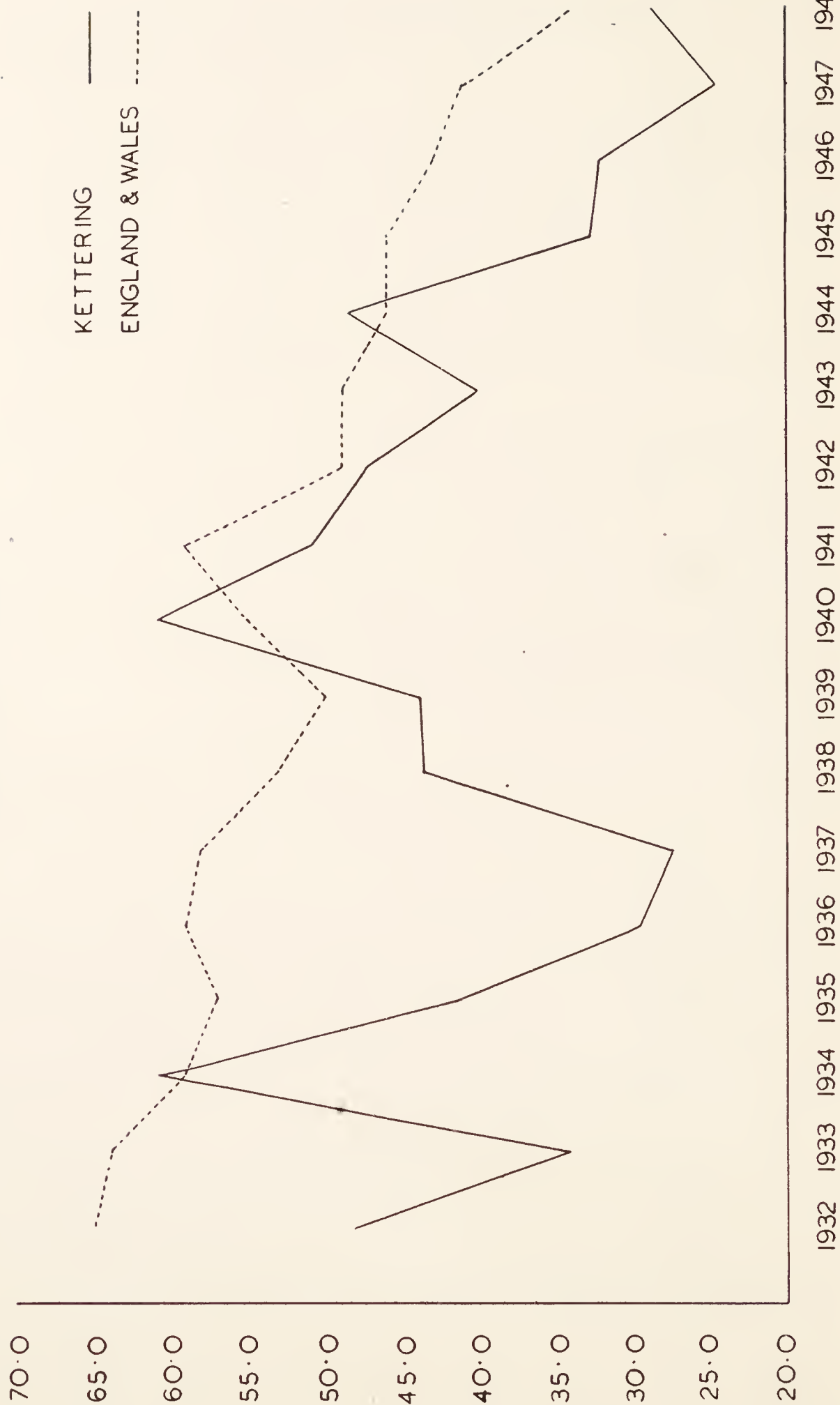
The following table gives the age and cause of death of the infants who died January—July 5th, 1948.

No.	Age	Cause of Death
1	1 hour	Prematurity (29 weeks).
1	4 hours	Haemorrhage after birth.
1	6 days	Sub-tentorial haemorrhage.
1	1 week	Intracranial birth injury.
1	2 weeks	Broncho-pneumonia. Prematurity.
1	1 month	Pneumonia. Meningocele. Hydrocephalus.
1	5 weeks	Acute otitis media with lateral sinus thrombosis. Previous diarrhoea and vomiting.
1	6 weeks	Pneumococcal meningitis.
1	5 months	Terminal broncho-pneumonia. Hydrocephalus and syringomyelocele.
1	7 months	Pulmonary tuberculosis.
1	9 months	Hydrocephalus with congenital meningocele.

The infantile mortality rates for the Borough of Kettering and for England and Wales during the last 10 years were :

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	Average 1937- 1948
Borough of Kettering	44.94	60.79	50.78	47.46	40.18	48.61	32.68	32.02	24.79	28.83	41.11
England and Wales	50	55	59	49	49	46	46	43	41	34	47

INFANTILE DEATH RATES
PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS.



Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Two cases were notified. No impairment of vision resulted.

The Pre-School Child.—(1) The Linden Avenue Nursery continued to carry out good work. The accommodation is for 40 children from 2 to 4 years of age, but where special circumstances exist children from 1½ to 2 years are admitted with a maximum of 6 children under 2 years of age in attendance at any time. In order to prevent as far as possible the introduction of infection into the nursery by new children, each prospective entrant is medically examined 2 days prior to admission. Re-examinations are carried out each term. Forty-one first examinations and 40 re-examinations were done.

The Ronald Tree Nursery School and the Nursery Classes at the Henry Gotch and the Rockingham Road Infant Schools also admit and care for children under 5 years of age.

(2) Deaths of Children under 5 years of age.—The ages and causes of death of 4 children were :—

<i>Age</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
14 months ...	Tuberculous meningitis.
2 years ...	Death from shock due to burns accidentally received
3 years ...	Coeliac disease. Mentally defective.
4 years ...	Status epilepticus.

Child Welfare Centres.—Four child welfare clinics held weekly, 3 at School Lane Centre and 1 at St. Phillip's Hall. The table below shows the attendances. Compared with the previous year the average attendance of children per session has increased by 1.53.

1st January to 4th July	St. Philip's Hall	School Lane	Totals
Number of sessions	24	71	95
Children :—			
New cases under 1 year ...	37	150	187
Re-attendances	652	2529	3181
New cases over 1 year ...	3	11	14
Re-attendances	494	2120	2614
Total attendances of children	1186	4810	5996
Average attendance of children per session	49.4	67.7	62.0
Consultations with Medical Officer	423	1702	2125
Mothers with babies	1124	4521	5645
Visitors	196	592	788
Total attendances	2506	9923	12429
Average total attendance per session	104.4	125.7	130.8

The Work of the Health Visitors :

HOME-VISITING :

Visits to expectant mothers :

Number of first visits	...	...	...	...	126
Number of re-visits	...	...	...	...	88
Number of ineffective visits	...	...	...	...	38

Visits to infants under 1 year :

Number of first visits	...	...	...	...	374
Number of re-visits	...	...	...	...	1246
Number of ineffective visits	...	...	...	...	317

Visits to children 1—5 years :

Number of first visits	...	...	...	...	29
Number of re-visits	...	...	...	...	3068
Number of ineffective visits	...	...	...	...	594

Number of visits to cases of :

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	3
Still births	...	...	...	...	2
Total visits, 1st January to 4th July, 1948	...	...	...	...	5886
Total visits, 1947	...	...	...	...	8994

Attendance at clinic sessions :

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics	...	...	...	...	190
Ante-natal Clinics	...	...	...	...	133
Post-natal Clinics	...	...	...	...	11
Total Attendances, 1st January to 4th July, 1948	...	...	...	...	334

Treatment.—The arrangements for the treatment of children under school age were the same as in past years. Dental attention for expectant and nursing mothers was provided as in former years.

Ophthalmic Clinic.—Thirteen children made 13 attendances.

Aural Clinic.—Three children attended this clinic on 5 occasions.

Dental Clinic.—The table below gives particulars of the cases treated :

	Expectant Mothers	Nursing Mothers	Children	Total
New cases (first attendances)	24	1	13	38
Re-attendances ...	58	27	11	96
Total attendances ...	82	28	24	134
Extractions ...	31	26	6	63
Fillings ...	27	—	1	28
Other operations ...	45	24	19	88
Local anaesthetics	10	—	—	10
General anaesthetics	6	5	3	14

Two dentures were supplied to 1 nursing mother and 3 dentures to 2 expectant mothers. One mother had a tooth added to her plate.

Minor Ailment Clinic.—Forty-two children under school age attended on 112 occasions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Child Life Protection.—During the period the Health Visitors, in their capacity of Child Protection Visitors, paid 8 visits to the homes of 5 children.

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.—Under Section 7 (3) 3 persons gave notice during the year regarding the placing of a child with a foster-parent.

Examination of Employees.—Twenty males and 10 females were medically examined by the Medical Officer of Health and all were considered fit for employment in the service of the Council.

Cremation.—Three hundred and thirteen cremations were carried out at the Kettering Crematorium during the year.

Since the opening of the Crematorium in 1940 there has been a yearly increase in the number of cremations of Kettering residents. In the case of persons residing out of Kettering there has been a marked increase with the exception of this year.

In the first year 15 'out of town' cremations took place, 210 in 1947 and 182 in 1948.

The increase in the number of cremations taking place is a sign that the public is realising that cremation is the most hygienic method for the disposal of the dead.

